

In COUNCIL, Annapolis, January 24, 1798.
ORDERED, That the act to alter, abolish and repeal, such parts of the second, third, fourteenth and forty-second sections of the constitution and form of government, as relate to the judges, time, place and manner, of holding the several elections therein specified, the act to alter and repeal those parts of the constitution and form of government that make the commissioners of Baltimore-town judges of the elections for delegates and for electors of the senate, and the act to alter such parts of the declaration of rights, the constitution and form of government, as prevent persons conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath from being witnesses in all cases, be published once in each week, for the term of three months successively, in the Maryland-Gazette, at Annapolis, the Federal Gazette, at Baltimore, the Herald, at Eallon, and in one of the George-town and Frederick-town papers.

By order,
NINIAN PINKNEY, Clerk
of the governor and council
of the State of Maryland.

An ACT to alter, abolish and repeal, such parts of the second, third, fourteenth and forty-second sections of the constitution and form of government, as relate to the judges, time, place and manner, of holding the several elections therein specified.

WHEREAS the holding elections at any one place in each county of this state is attended with great inconvenience to all citizens remote from said place, and operates to deprive many persons entitled to suffrage from the exercise of that right; and as it is desirable that the full, free, and fair voice of the people should be expressed in their choice of the functionaries of government,

Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the several counties of this state, for the purpose of holding all future elections for delegates, electors of the senate, and sheriffs of the several counties, shall be divided into separate districts in the manner herein after directed, viz. Saint-Mary's county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Kent county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Calvert county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Charles county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Talbot county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Somerset county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Dorchester county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Cecil county shall be divided and laid off into four separate districts, Prince-George's county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Queen-Anne's county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Worcester county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Frederick county shall be divided and laid off into seven separate districts, Harford county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Caroline county shall be divided and laid off into three separate districts, Washington county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Montgomery county shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts, Allegany county shall be divided and laid off into six separate districts.

And be it enacted, That Anne-Arundel county, including the city of Annapolis, shall be divided and laid off into five separate districts.

And be it enacted, That Baltimore county, out of the limits of the city of Baltimore, shall be divided and laid off into seven districts, and that the city of Baltimore shall, at all future elections, form and constitute one district for the purpose of electing sheriffs.

And be it enacted, That all and every part of the second, third, fourteenth and forty-second sections of the constitution and form of government of this state, which relate to the judges, place, time and manner of holding the several elections therein mentioned, be and the same are hereby abrogated, repealed and annulled, and the same shall hereafter be regulated by law.

And be it enacted, That if this act shall be confirmed by the general assembly, after the next election of delegates, in the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of government directs, that in such case this act, and the alteration of the said constitution contained therein, shall be considered as a part, and shall constitute and be valid as a part, of the said constitution and form of government, to all intents and purposes, any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

An ACT to alter and repeal those parts of the constitution and form of government that make the commissioners of Baltimore-town judges of the elections for delegates and for electors of the senate.

Be it enacted, by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the mayor and second branch of the city council of the city of Baltimore, or any three or more of them, for the time being, shall be judges of the elections for delegates of the city of Baltimore, and for electors of the senate, and shall have and exercise all the rights and authorities respecting such elections which were vested in the commissioners of Baltimore-town, in virtue of the constitution and form of government.

And be it enacted, That all such parts of the constitution and form of government that make the commissioners of Baltimore-town judges of the elections for delegates, and for electors of the senate, be and the same are hereby repealed.

And be it enacted, That this act shall continue in force until it shall be published at least three months before the next election of delegates, and shall be confirmed by the general assembly, in their first session after such new election.

An ACT to alter such parts of the declaration of rights, the constitution and form of government, as prevent persons conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath from being witnesses in all cases.

WHEREAS persons conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath labour under many and great inconveniences, owing to their not being admitted to make their solemn affirmation as witnesses in all cases instead of an oath; therefore,

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the people called Quakers, those called Nicolites or New Quakers, those called Tunkers, and those called Menonites, holding it unlawful to take an oath on any occasion, shall be allowed to make their solemn affirmation as witnesses, in the manner that quakers have been heretofore allowed to affirm, which affirmation shall be of the same avail as an oath, to all intents and purposes whatever.

And be it enacted, That before any of the persons aforesaid shall be admitted as a witness in any court of justice in this state, the court shall be satisfied, by such testimony as they may require, that such person is one of those who profess to be conscientiously scrupulous of taking an oath.

And be it enacted, That if this act shall be confirmed by the general assembly, after the next election of delegates, in the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of government directs, that in such case this act, and the alterations and amendment of the constitution and form of government therein contained, shall be taken and considered, and shall constitute and be valid, as part of the said constitution and form of government, to all intents and purposes, any thing in the said declaration of rights, constitution and form of government contained, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And be it enacted, That the several clauses and sections of the declaration of rights, constitution and form of government, contrary to the provisions of this act, so far as they respect either of the sects or societies aforesaid, shall be and are hereby declared to be repealed and annulled, on the confirmation hereof.

JUST PUBLISHED,
And to be sold at the Printing-Office,
Price, Two Dollars,

The LAWS

OF
MARYLAND,
Passed November Session, 1797.

To be RENTED,

And possession given immediately.

THAT beautiful situation, in the neighbourhood of Annapolis, called **STRAWBERRY HILL**, it contains 175 acres of land, with a most excellent dwelling-house, offices, &c. For further particulars apply to **RICHARD SPRIGG**, West river, or **HUGH THOMPSON**, Baltimore.
April 18, 1798.

For SALE,

A FEW families of **NÉGROES**, consisting of four families, the first, two women and four children, all boys, two fit for service; the second, one ditto, four ditto, two boys fit for service; the third, one woman and two children, both boys; the fourth, a young man, his wife and child; they have all had the small pox except a few small ones. They are as likely negroes as any in America. The women that have got husbands may be purchased in the same neighbourhood.
GEORGE SMITH,
Calvert county, Lyon's creek, Dec. 2, 1797.

To be SOLD, on credit,

A VALUABLE PLANTATION, situated on the Chesapeake Bay, on the north side of Severn river, containing between three and four hundred acres; this land lies within about eighteen miles from the city of Baltimore, and five from the city of Annapolis, it abounds with timber of every kind, a large proportion of which is calculated for ships; the soil is fertile and level, and well adapted for grazing and farming, having a quantity of salt marsh; it abounds with fish, oysters, and wild fowl, in their proper seasons. This tract of land is situated on the Chesapeake Bay, and a navigable creek on the other side, from its situation it can be enclosed with one hundred and fifty fathoms of fence; the improvements are, a dwelling-house and two apple orchards. From the advantageous situation of this property it must be an object to persons inclinable to purchase. For terms of sale apply to **LANCELOT WARFIELD**, Baltimore, or to the subscriber on the Head of Severn, Anne-Arundel county.
p. 15
April 7, 1798.

Lands for Sale.

CUMBERLAND MANOR ENLARGED, lying in Allegany county, containing twenty-four thousand four hundred and twenty-four acres of land, by accurate survey, and is marked and bounded round the whole tract. It is situated on the Savage river, which runs through it upwards of twenty miles. This land is heavily wooded with the most valuable timber of every kind that the country produces, and

is watered with abundance of fine springs and streams, sufficient for any and every kind of water-works; the soil is generally fertile and particularly adapted to graze. The whole is divided into forty-five lots, containing from four hundred to seven hundred acres each. A great bargain and a long credit will be given to purchasers disposed to settle immediately on the spot. The road from Cumberland to Pittsburgh runs through the upper part, and the river Patowmack lies within ten miles. Mill-stones of any dimensions may be made on this land, with little trouble, of a superior quality; there are also a great number of large trees on it, which will not only be a great convenience, but profitable to settlers. A plot of this land is lodged at the vendue store of Messrs. Yarnall & Campbell, in Baltimore, with the terms of sale, and should the land not be disposed of at private sale before Thursday the twenty-fourth day of May next, it will on that day be offered at Public auction, at the vendue store, on a credit of one, two, and three years. The following tracts, lying in Allegany county, are likewise offered for sale, to wit: **Evitt's Creek Farm**, containing four thousand two hundred and sixty acres, lying on Evitt's creek, about five miles from the town of Cumberland, and about the same distance from the Patowmack, will be sold, the whole together, or divided into lots of not less than five hundred acres. Commonwealth, containing three thousand eight hundred and seventeen acres, lying on George's creek, about seven miles from the town of West-Farm, which is at the mouth of said creek where it empties into the Patowmack; on this tract there is a good yard erected, with sundry other improvements, and even or eight acres of good timothy meadow; several grist and saw-mills are erected within a few miles of this land; the whole is well watered and wooded, and will be divided into lots, to accommodate purchasers. **Water-works**, containing three hundred and fifty acres and three quarters, lying on Jennings Run, on this tract are several valuable seats for any kind of water-works, and plenty of timber and coal; there are two small tenements on it, and lie about six miles from Cumberland, on the Turkey-foot road. **Mount Hope**, containing sixty-four and a quarter acres, lying about five miles from Cumberland, near Cresap's town; on this tract there is a small settlement. **White Walnut Bottom**, containing one hundred acres, is a valuable tract, being heavily timbered, and very rich soil, lies on Big Run, about fifteen miles from Cumberland. **White Oak Bottom**, containing one hundred and three acres. **White Oak Level**, containing fifty acres. **Lee's Desire**, containing fifty acres. **Prospect**, containing fifty acres. **Gar Camps**, containing eighty acres. **Saw-Mill**, containing fifty acres. **Hard to Find**, containing fifty acres. **The Vineyard**, containing fifty acres. **Old Rain**, containing fifty acres. **Chestnut Hill**, containing fifty-three acres and a half. **Buck Range**, containing fifty acres. **Neglect**, containing fifty acres. **Pretty Prospect**, containing fifty acres. **Poband's**, by appointment, containing sixty acres. **Dispute**, containing fifty acres. **Rois's** Black Luck, containing fifty acres. **Savage**, containing fifty acres. **Black Oak Ridge**, containing one hundred acres. **Beginning of Trouble**, containing fifty acres. All the last mentioned tracts are among the first quality of lands in the county, and several of them are improved. For further and more particular information, any persons desirous of purchasing will apply to Mr. George Doolittle, in Cumberland, who will shew the premises and explain the terms of sale. The following tract, lying in Anne-Arundel county, called **St. James's**, containing one hundred and fifteen acres and a half of land, lying on the turnpike road from Baltimore to Frederick-town, and adjoining the Poplar Springs, first sold at private sale before Saturday the nineteenth day of May next, will on that day be exposed to public sale, at the Poplar Springs; this land is well wooded, has excellent springs, lies level, and is in a very healthy part of the country. Also will be sold, by public sale, on Friday the first day of June next, the premises, the plantation where Thomas Jennings resides, containing three hundred seven and a half acres of land; on this place are two good apple orchards, fifteen to twenty acres of good meadow ground, and a capital place for a distillery, the stream being supplied by never failing cool springs; and has a perpendicular fall of twenty feet; this land is bounded on the river Patuxent, and lies in Anne-Arundel county, is distant about fifteen miles from Elk-Ridge Landing, and about seventeen or eighteen miles from the Federal City.

Having a number of tracts of land in several counties in this state, which I wish to dispose of, and for the convenience of those whom said lands may adjourn, the following gentlemen are authorized to contract for, and will give notice, describe, and shew the same, in Bedford county, Mr. James Bond, at Belle-Air; in Washington county, Dr. Richard Pindell, at Hagerstown; and Mr. William Tong, near Hancock-town; in Worcester county, Mr. William Corbitt; in Calverton, Mr. John Young; in Dorchester county, Mr. John Craig; in Baltimore county, Mr. Elijah Morgan.

I will exchange lands for a few negro men, on advantageous terms. Any persons wishing to obtain lands, on moderate and reduced prices, will please apply to the persons above named, or to the subscriber in the city of Annapolis.
SAMUEL GODMAN,
February 28, 1798.
ANNA POLIS
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